AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said evaluating step includes a step of evaluating a degree of significance of each element based on a fixed significance-evaluating standard.

55. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes a step of limiting the element to be placed on said output document, based on a predetermined page size and a predetermined number of pages of said output document.

56. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 55, wherein said limiting step includes a step of limiting the element to be placed on said output document so that a total space occupied by one or a plurality of selected elements on said output document is less than or equal to a space limit determined by the page size and the number of pages.

57. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 56, wherein said limiting step includes a step of continuing selecting the element until said total space exceeds said space limit; and eliminating a most-recently selected element from said output document.

58. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 56, wherein said limiting step includes a step of continuing selecting the element until said total space exceeds said space limit; reducing a size of at least a part of said one or said plurality of

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selected elements so that said total space becomes less than or equal to said space limit; and placing said one or said plurality of selected elements on said output document.

59. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes a step of eliminating an element whose degree of significance is lower than a specific significance level.

60. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said specific significance level differs with an attribute of said each element.

61. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 60, wherein the specific significance level of a non-text element is higher than that of a text element.

62. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes steps of[[:]] keeping a text element; and eliminating a non-text element.

63. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes a step of compressing a non-text element by using a compression method corresponding to the degree of significance of said non-text element.

64. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes a step of compressing a non-text element at a compression rate corresponding to the degree of significance of said non-text element.

65. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[1]] 84, wherein said step of generating the output document includes a step of eliminating a text element whose degree of significance is lower than a first significance level; and compressing a non-text element whose degree of significance is lower than a second significance level.

66-68. (Canceled)

69. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said evaluation unit evaluates a degree of significance of each element based on a fixed significance-evaluating standard.

70. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit limits the element to be placed on said output document, based on a predetermined page size and a predetermined number of pages of said output document.

71. (Previously presented) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim 70, wherein said process unit limits the element to be placed on said output document so that a total space occupied by one or a plurality of selected elements on said output document is less than or equal to a space limit determined by the page size and the number of pages.

72. (Previously presented) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim 71, wherein said process unit continues selecting the element until said total space exceeds said space limit; and eliminating a most-recently selected element from said output document.

73. (Previously presented) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim 71, wherein said process unit continues selecting the element until said total space exceeds said space limit; reducing a size of at least a part of said one or said plurality of selected elements so that said total space becomes less than or equal to said space limit; and placing said one or said plurality of selected elements on said output document.

74. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit eliminates an element whose degree of significance is lower than a specific significance level.

75. (Previously presented) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim 74, wherein said specific significance level differs with an attribute of said each element.

76. (Previously presented) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim 74, wherein the specific significance level of a non-text element is higher than that of a text element.

77. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit keeps a text element and eliminates a non-text element.

78. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit compresses a non-text element by

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using a compression method corresponding to the degree of significance of said non-text element.

79. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit compresses a non-text element at a compression rate corresponding to the degree of significance of said non-text element.

80. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit eliminates a text element whose degree of significance is lower than a first significance level; and compressing a non-text element whose degree of significance is lower than a second significance level.

81. (Currently Amended) The document-information processing device as claimed in claim [[66]] 85, wherein said process unit compresses the elements with a compression rate varied according to a selected process mode.

82. (Canceled)

83. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to generate an output document from structured-document information ~~that is described in a structured-document description language and is composed of blocks including a language-type declaration block, a document-type declaration block and a document entity block~~, said program comprising the steps of:

inputting document information from a document information source , said document information being composed of a plurality of elements described in XML;

evaluating a degree of significance of each element composing said input document information;

selecting in succession an element among said plurality of elements composing said input document information in a decreasing significance order based on a result of the evaluating step;

generating the output document in which the selected elements are placed in a selecting order in the selecting step; and

outputting the generated output document on a printing device, a display device or an image transmission device,

wherein the evaluating step includes the steps of:

reading an XML declaration block of the input document information and determining whether the XML declaration block read is an XML declaration;

reading a document-type declaration and a document entity of the input document information if it is determined that the input document information is XML document information;

separating a tag and an element described in the document entity by using a regulation set in the document-type declaration;

converting the document entity to a tree structure; and

adding the evaluated degree of significance of said each element to said tree structure.

~~reading the blocks in said input document information;~~

~~analyzing tags and elements in the document entity according to the rule defined by the document-type declaration to convert the document entity to a tree structure;~~

~~evaluating a degree of significance for each element;~~

~~adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure; and~~

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~~generating the output document by reducing an information content of the~~

~~input document information according to the result added to the tree structure.~~

84. (Currently Amended) A method of generating an output document from structured-document information, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting document information from a document information source, said document information being composed <u>of</u> a plurality of elements <u>described in XML</u>;

evaluating a degree of significance of each element <u>composing</u> [[of]] said input document information;

selecting in succession an element among said plurality of elements <u>composing</u> [[of]] said input document information in a decreasing significance order based on a result of the evaluating step;

generating the output document in which the selected elements are placed in a selecting order in the selecting step; and

outputting the generated output document on a printing device, a display device, or an image transmission device;

wherein in the evaluating step includes the steps of

<u>reading an XML declaration block of the input document information and determining whether the XML declaration block read is an XML declaration;</u> ~~determining whether the input document information is XML document information;~~

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reading a document-type declaration and a document entity of the

input document information if it is determined that the input document

information is XML document information;

separating a tag and an element described in the document entity by

using a regulation set in the document-type declaration; ~~and~~

converting the document entity to a tree structure; and

adding the evaluated degree of significance of said each element to

said tree structure.

85. (Currently Amended) A document-information processing device,

comprising:

an input unit configured to input document information from a document

information source, said document information being composed of a plurality of

elements described in XML;

an evaluation unit configured to evaluate a degree of significance of each

element composing [[of]] said input document information;

a process unit configured to select an element among said plurality of

elements composing [[of]] said input document information in a decreasing

significance order based on an evaluation result of the evaluation unit, the process unit

~~and generate~~ generating the output document in which the selected elements are

placed in a selecting order; and

an output unit configured to output the generated output document on a

printing device, a display device or an image transmission device,

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wherein in the evaluation unit includes:

a exterminating unit configured to <u>read an XML declaration block of the input document information and determine whether the XML declaration block read is an XML declaration</u> ~~determine whether the input document information is XML document information~~;

a reading unit configured to read a document-type declaration and a document entity of the input document information if it is determined that the input document information is XML document information;

a separating unit configured to separate a tag and an element described in the document entity by using a regulation set in the document-type declaration; ~~and~~

a converting unit configured to convert the document entity to a tree structure<u>; and</u>

<u>an adding unit configured to add the evaluated degree of significance of said each element to said tree structure</u>.

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